

4 September 2001

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Lake H Barrett, Acting Director
Office of Civilian Radioactive
Waste Management
Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20585

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Dear Sir:

I visited the Yucca Mountain Preliminary Site on one of the scheduled tours in June 2000. I felt the tour was very informative and worthwhile and appreciated the opportunity to see it for myself.

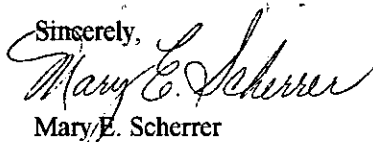
The Department of Energy and the US Atomic Energy Commission have studied the radio active waste management options throughout the 60s and 70s and Yucca Mountain Site for more than 20 years. After spending more than 6.7 Billion dollars on the studies and determining Yucca Mountain is the most suitable site for development of the repository, I feel that the Secretary of Energy should proceed with the recommendation to the President. I feel that the President would approve the project.

The time has come for all the commercial nuclear utilities in the United States, of which there are many, to have a place to dispose of their collected nuclear waste. In fact, disposal of the nuclear waste has become critical. A large percentage of our electricity is generated by the many nuclear utilities in our country. What would happen if all our nuclear utilities generating electricity would have to suddenly shut down? The uproar would be horrific!

I know that many people in the state of Nevada keep saying, "no, not in my backyard." The "what ifs" in Nevada and elsewhere in America can always find reasons to decry progress. I feel that politics and scare tactics by various groups have caused such a delay in the minds of our people that they will believe anything whether its true or not. I often wonder just how well informed our politicians really are! The "Executive Summary, Yucca Mountain Science and Engineering Report" is available for anyone to read and is on the website, <http://www.ym.gov>. Its very informative.

Let's stop all the delay and get on with the program at hand. Let's stop evaluating and spending money on where to locate the repository and get on with the program of developing the Yucca Mountain site. America needs nuclear energy, a repository for the nuclear waste, and the many jobs that it will create. Wake up America!

Sincerely,



Mary E. Scherrer

cc: USDOE, Office of CRWM